Bill Roy Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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DATE

CLASSIFICATION CATEGORY (Check One) District Building Public Public Acquisition: Site Structure Private In Process Object Both Being Considered PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) Agricultural Government Park T Commercial Industrial Private Residence Of Educational Military Religious Entertainment Museum Scientific OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: General Services Administration STREET AND NUMBER: 18th and F Streets, N. W.	Chison STATUS T Occupied Unoccupied Preservation work in progress	CODI OOS ACCESSIBLE O THE PUBLI Yes: } Restricted] Unrestricted] No	
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Atchison County Courthouse			ħi.
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REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			·
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. DESCRIPTION	•		
		(Check One)	
CONDITION	☐ Excellent 🛛 Good ☐ Fair	Deteriorated Ruins	☐ Unexposed
CONDITION	(Check One)	. (Check	(One)
,	X Altered Unaltered	☐ Moved	○ Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PE	RESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL	APPEARANCE	

The Atchison Post Office, a building with an unusual and massive appearance, is built of coursed ashlar limestone in a Romanesque influenced style. It is of two stories with a full basement. The foundation is also of limestone, and a wide band of smooth stone was used below the first floor windows to indicate the floor line. Transoms divide the first floor and tower windows. All windows have smooth cut sills with the first floor lintels being extremely deep. Two arched entries serve the building. Both are important features, but the south entrance is the stronger and was executed with greater detail.

Two large slate-roofed towers project from the southeast and southwest corners. These towers serve to unite the first and second stories which would otherwise seem to be separated by the first floor roof. The towers also have the only circular windows in the building as well as an interesting corbeled cornice. The large chimney employs a similar cornice. Paired columns and a dentil band frame the rather small second story windows. A composition hip roof protects the structure and finishes the design with simple uncluttered lines.

The building has been remodeled several times but mainly in the interior. In 1950-1951 the ceiling was lowered, new lighting installed, and other improvements made at a cost of \$70,000. Except for the removal of some roof ornamentation, the exterior appears to be basically unaltered; however, a rectangular brick loading dock has been added on the north side.

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PERIOD (Check One or More as A			C	C
Pre-Columbian			18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	17th Century		19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	and Known) 1892-18	94		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Chec	k One or More as Appropris	ate)	•	
Abor iginal	☐ Education		Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	☐ Engineering		Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic ☐ Agriculture	☐ Industry ☐ Invention		Science	MA TONING
	☐ Landscape		Sculpture	
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Commerce	☐ Literature		itarian	
Communications	☐ Military		Theater	
☐ Conservation	☐ Music		Transportation	
TATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE				······································

Construction of the Atchison Post Office, located at the northeast corner of Seventh and Kansas avenue, was authorized by an act of Congress approved May 16, 1890. The efforts of U. S. Senator John J. Ingalls, whose home town was Atchison, were the main factor in securing passage of the act.

Congress appropriated funds for land acquisition and construction on August 30, 1890, and March 3, 1891. The building site was purchased by the U. S. Government from Dr. Cochrane on March 19, 1891, for \$14,500. The contract for construction was awarded June 24, 1892, and the building was occupied March 14, 1894. Construction costs (excluding land purchase) are given by the U. S. Treasury department at \$85,393.11. Newspaper accounts and local histories set the amount at \$61,703.17.

The Atchison postmaster during the period of construction and opening of the new post office was Solomon R. Washer, whose term of office was from March 20, 1890, to June 7, 1894.

The Atchison Post Office is an excellent example of the use of native stone in the Romanesque influenced style.

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.	Atchison Daily Globe, July 16, 1894.													
:	"First U. S. Post Office Established Here in 1855," Atchison Daily Globe,													
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-	June 20, 1954. A History of Public Buildings under the Control of the Treasury Department									man t				
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ATTEST:

Date

Keeper of The National Register

Nyle H. Miller

Date Nov. 6, 1971

Title Executive Secretary, Kansas
State Historical Society

Form 10-300a (Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
Kansas						
COUNTY						
Atchison						
FOR NPS USE ONLY						
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE					

9. "Postoffice Is Less Than One Year Younger Than City," Atchison Daily Globe, July 11, 1929.

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